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## Little River Canyon National Preserve News Release

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## Little River Canyon National Preserve Announces Closure of Three Backcountry Camp Sites because of Health and Safety Concerns

Acting Superintendent Paul Carson announced that Little River Canyon National Preserve has closed three backcountry campsites for health and safety reasons. The three campsites normally open February 1 each year.

"We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may cause our visitors," Carson said. "Unfortunately, when we were inspecting the sites prior to opening, we determined that we must keep them closed because the pit toilets at the sites are unserviceable. They are at risk of overflowing and contaminating the surrounding areas. That is why we took action to close the sites and begin planning for clean up."

"We recognize how important camping is to our visitors and we are working to quickly establish replacement sites. We hope to have information about the new sites available in the near future."

Carson said the park is completing required studies of the replacement sites to ensure they meet state and federal standards. He is unable to say when the new sites will open.

Carson said the closed sites will be returned to their natural state after they are cleaned.

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